

former speech pathologist and research associate professor in the School of Allied Health Professions who directed graduate student research, taught courses in research design and communications disorders, and is a founding member of the Friends of Staller Center Advisory Council.

The culmination of these ongoing efforts is the May 7, 2012 opening of the newly remodeled building to house the Laufer Center on Stony Brook's campus. The Center was established in 2008 in loving memory of Louis and Beatrice Laufer by their children Helen Laufer Kaplan and Howard Kaplan, Jeffrey and Barbara Laufer, and Henry and Marsha Laufer. At that time, Stony Brook University President Shirley Kenny praised the Laufers as "people of remarkable vision and generosity" and recognized the Center's potential to "explore new frontiers in research and education . . . have a profound impact on the future of biomedical research and health care for generations to come."

The Center brings together academic experts and students in math, physics, genetics, biochemistry, engineering, and computer sciences to advance research and innovation that will lead to groundbreaking discoveries in biology and medicine. The Center uses an interdisciplinary approach and involves collaborations among scientists at Stony Brook University, Brookhaven National Laboratory and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory to provide an important interface between the physical and life sciences.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have known the Laufer family for many years and am very proud to call them close friends of mine. They are a great source of inspiration, enthusiasm, and dedication to major advances in research, learning, and a better a way of life. On behalf of New York's first congressional district, I congratulate the Laufer family for its generosity and outstanding contributions to Stony Brook University and to our community on this occasion marking the opening of the Louis and Beatrice Laufer Center for Physical and Quantitative Biology.

HONORING ODYSSEY OF THE MIND OF CARROLL SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize the Odyssey of the Mind teams of Carroll Senior High School for their winning the state championship in two categories this year.

Odyssey of the Mind is a widespread program for students that develops team problem-solving and creative thinking. Grouped into teams, students spend many weeks working on solutions to long-term problems which they then present at competitions along with a short-term problem and solution that they are given at the competitions. Odyssey fosters creativity by allowing students to choose from problems that each have multiple possible solutions.

There were 115 teams participating in the Texas state competition this year and Carroll Senior High produced two teams that won

state titles. Ann Dahl, Allison Newman, Braden Anderson, Christie Ballew, Spencer Lankford, Mackenzie Murphy and Jack Veenker earned the state title for Vehicular Problem-Solving and also the award for Most Creative team. The team was led by coaches Megan Anderson, Carl Anderson, and Shauna Newman. A second team, comprised of Jenna Buckley, Nico Scalzo, Emilie Featherston, Nathalie Scherer, Annie Newman, and Lindsey Weiss, won the state title for Technical Problem-Solving. Their coaches were Cindy Featherston and Micki Scalzo. In the course of their accomplishments, these students developed and demonstrated skills in creativity, dialogue, and teamwork.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the Carroll Senior High School Odyssey of the Mind Teams for their respective titles at the Texas state competition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 30, 2012, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on vote No. 294 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 5651, as amended); "yes" on vote No. 295 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 4201); and "yes" on vote No. 296 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 915, as amended).

RECOGNIZING THE KEEP PRINCE WILLIAM BEAUTIFUL VOLUNTEERS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the volunteers of Keep Prince William Beautiful.

Keep Prince William's objective is to protect the environment. Through the implementation of six programs, the overall focus is on three areas of environmental stewardship: litter removal, recycling education, and water quality initiatives. The six programs include:

Volunteer Storm Drain Initiative, Adopt-A-Spot Program, Volunteer Speakers Bureau, Fall and Spring Cleanup, Litter Survey, Community Cleanup.

It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of volunteers for Keep Prince William Beautiful:

Barbara Bell, Starbucks-Hoadly Road, Tawnia Jeffery, JoAnn Sherrill, Ron Haynes, Meagan Andrews, Vic Doppee, Delores Gee, Tina McCoy, American Red Cross Youth Task Force, Robert Duecaster, Antoinette Chaisson, Stanley Mahdi, Leigh-Anne Vaughn, Thomas Davis, Sam Shankar, Mary Johnson, Frank Simms, Ed Howell, Allyson Avery, David Mercer, Barbara Conrad, Eric VanNortwick, Minister Spann, Connie Moser, Richard Grant,

Linda Gosnell, James Faison, Gwen Bourke, Joel Contrucci, Randy Baum, Joyce Jolly, Ruth Baxter, Heather Abney, Mark Clark, Jim Hollis, Sunset Lions Club, Abdul Hayee, Jay Leach, Robert Mancini, Pete Mason, Sonia Wood, Gar-Field HS Ecology Club, Marie Vayer, Zoe Vitter, Linda Seemen, Marie Alarcon, Andrew Chung, Diane Puckett, New Life Anointed Ministries International, Brenda Jenkins, LaToya Boyd, Joy Weaver, Misty Hayes-Lee, Nicole Brown, Jacqueline Freeman, Kim Silver, LaLinda McMillon Street, Kelly Easterly, Board President, Delain Moyers, Vice President Connie Moser, Kim Sawicki, William Smith, David Brown, Susan Johnson, Anthony King, Donny Gray, Josh Clark, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Peter Lineberry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the volunteers of Keep Prince William Beautiful and in thanking them for their dedication.

PRENATAL NONDISCRIMINATION ACT (PRENDA) OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, there are few things that anger me more than when Members of this body claim that a piece of legislation will accomplish something that it simply will not accomplish. That is certainly the case with H.R. 3541—a bill that my friends on the other side of the aisle claim will prevent sex-selection abortions and will ensure that the United States does not become a supposed "safe-haven" for women seeking an abortion based on the sex of the pregnancy.

The issue of sex-selection is a very real issue in different nations around the globe. However, even leading international health experts in this field agree that the solution does not lie in criminalizing the practice, which would only keep it behind closed doors. The solution lies in addressing the social, economic, political and cultural factors that create, sustain and exacerbate sex inequality in the first place; the very inequalities that lead to sex-selection in the first place.

Unfortunately, this bill will not achieve any of the claims from my friends on the other side of the aisle and this will certainly will nothing to reduce sex discrimination and gender inequality.

What this bill will do, however, is to exacerbate the unfortunate impacts of sex discrimination and gender inequality by leading to greater stigmatization of women and especially Asian-American women who exercise their choice and control over their reproductive lives. And, there is nothing about that suggests or reflects any intention or hope of fighting back against gender discrimination. What this bill also will do is to restrict access to legal and safe abortion services, violate the very-important doctor-patient relationship and needlessly threaten healthcare providers with civil and criminal liability unless they report any suspicions they have about a woman's reason for exercising her right as a human being to control her body.

It is evident that this legislation has nothing to do with empowering women here or around